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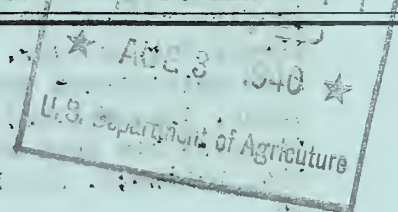
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THE CHOCTAWHATCHEE

1908 - 1940



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On a bright, sunny morning late in October, 1913, two members of the Forest Service set sail from Pensacola in a small launch for Garniers, Florida. They had waited a whole day in Pensacola for this boat which was the only regular mode of transportation to Camp Pinchot, at that time the supervisor's summer headquarters for the Choctawhatchee Forest. It made three trips a week to deliver mail and express to Garniers and other fishing villages along Choctawhatchee Bay.

At Garniers the men were met by the Forest Service "navy" - a little bit of a boat with an engine that worked sometimes - and transported to Camp Pinchot. And here on the dock to meet the travelers were Eli Eldredge, the supervisor, and his only ranger, E. R. McKee. Many folks in the Service remember both of them, Eldredge in charge of the Southern Forest Survey and "Mac", who has retired after many years of efficient service, and is living at Pensacola. So it was "hello Sam and Joe", and "we're so glad finally to have arrived, Eli". This was my introduction to the Choctawhatchee, though not to Eldredge, its first supervisor, with whom I had wandered in the forests of the southwest.

The Choctawhatchee, which had been withdrawn from the public domain in 1906 and proclaimed a National Forest in November, 1908, was then a part of Region 3 - in fact, its outlying province,

which few members of the region ever saw. It was, at that time, the only forest in the South, and had been attached to Region 3, which had headquarters at Albuquerque, New Mexico, the closest one, when the regions (then called districts) were created in 1908.

And so it fell to my lot, as an inspector in timber management in Region 3, to look over the sales and turpentine permits on the Choctawhatchee in 1913 just before it was to be transferred to the newly-created Region 7. At Pensacola I ran into Sam Dana, then in charge of planting and silvics in the Washington office, now Dean of the Michigan Forest School. Together we proceeded to Camp Pinchot and then out onto the forest, where we inspected sales, turpentine, and some very interesting plantations.

Even though the forest had then been under administration less than five years, considerable progress had been made in protecting and developing it under the able leadership of Cap. Eldredge. A lookout and phone system had been installed, and a good start had been made in fire control on this area which heretofore had annually and entirely burned over. Plantations of maritime pine and cork oak had been established and looked promising (but later on, as they grew older, they failed). A timber management plan was in operation, trespass had been nearly stopped, and a flourishing sale and turpentine business, which even in 1913 brought in \$16,000, had been built up.

There were under way, also, those studies in naval stores practice which, to a large extent, laid the foundation for present-day best woods practices. Roads, there were none, because the auto had not yet found the Choctawhatchee, and forest officers did their work on horseback. Yes, a few sandy wheel ruts made by the gum wagons, and some equally sandy trails gave access to the various operations and allowed one to find his way about in a slow and laborious manner.

This, then, was the progressive start made by Eldredge, the young, active, versatile supervisor. And the Choctawhatchee saw a steady development under his six successors - L. L. Bishop, W. F. Hill, A. C. Shaw, Sam Broadbent, C. G. Smith, and Frank Albert.

1940 saw the forest fully developed - the capital investments completed, fires under excellent control, timber being cut under a good management plan, recreation and wildlife developed and the forest doing a \$53,548 business. The Choctawhatchee "had arrived". It was a going concern - a successful timber farm which was a source of income for a good many people along Choctawhatchee Bay. On it also had been developed most of the present-day turpentine practices, so that it can be said that no other area of longleaf pine has had the influence on the naval stores industry that this forest has. Financially, it had returned to Uncle Sam over one-half million dollars, and of course in labor, many times more to local people. Truly, it had become one of the great and famous National Forests.

Then suddenly, on June 27, 1940, its existence came to an end when President Roosevelt signed the Act transferring it to the War Department to be used for bombing practice. Now, after 32 years of development of its resources, the Army moves in with bombing from airplanes and with other war practices which will lead to devastation of large areas. Fortunately, the Army expects to continue fire control.

So then as we part and wish you luck, we say "good-bye", Choctawhatchee - you have served us well as a fine example of conservation and as the father of modern turpentine. If you will serve your new master as well, you will earn added fame as a laboratory for national defense. And if at some future time man becomes sufficiently civilized to give up developing "engines of destruction", we will welcome you back to the fold, bandage your wounds, and cover your battle scars with a much finer growth of trees than you have ever had before. Till then - - do your duty, "so that Democracy may not perish from this earth!"

-- JOSEPH C. KIRCHER.

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FIRE CONTROL CONFERENCE, CAMP O'LENO

The first annual Southern States Cooperative Forest Fire Control Conference, held at Camp O'Leno, Florida, June 3-7, marks an important milestone in the progress of cooperative fire control in Region 8. The idea originated with Inspector Holliday and was promoted and planned by the Section of Fire Control of the Division of State and Private Forestry in cooperation with the Florida Forest and Park Service, and successfully carried out by the Chiefs of Fire Control. It provided an opportunity for the men from the several states to compare notes, discuss their mutual problems and take back home with them new ideas, new plans and new enthusiasm.

All of the States in Region 8, except Tennessee and Georgia, were represented. Alabama sent three staff men, while North Carolina, Florida, and Arkansas each had two men present. Three days - Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday - were taken up with inside work, discussions by the group covering the whole field of fire prevention, presuppression and suppression.

The meeting was conducted as a forum, with a forum leader assigned to each subject followed by short assigned and general discussions. The blackboard was in frequent use in explanation and demonstration of methods or policies discussed. Each Fire Chief, in rotation, had the opportunity to act as chairman of the conference and as discussion leader. Each had an opportunity of actually conducting a

forum conference and of securing this experience which will be useful in similar training work in the respective States. Discussions were informal, straight to the point and every man made valuable contribution in his remarks. The degree to which every man took part in the work and the sustained interest were definite proof that the men attending are the kind of men to whom the responsibilities of their jobs can be trusted.

Following the three-day discussions, a field day was held at the headquarters of the District Forester of District #3, of the Florida Forest and Park Service at Lake City, and at the Olustee Guard Station in the Osceola National Forest. All types of fire equipment, radio, fire trucks, power pumps and fire line plows were demonstrated. The 6000-pound Forest-Stockman plow developed by District Forester Henegar competed for honors with the light 5 H. P. Garden tractor developed by Assistant State Forester Lary of Arkansas. Both gave excellent results in the type of cover for which it was developed. New V-type plows developed by the Mathis Plow Works at Lake City, Hester Plow Works and others show a definite trend toward light equipment requiring less power and more "sea-worthy" in soft ground.

The conference came to a conclusion with a banquet at the Camp on Thursday night attended by many of the field personnel of the Florida Forest and Park Service, a large number of cooperating land owners and officers of cooperating agencies, as well as the Fire Chiefs and members of the Regional Office in attendance at the meeting. State Forester H. L. Baker, as toastmaster, called on numerous representatives of the groups and agencies represented for brief remarks. Mr. M. J. Roess of Jacksonville, former President of the Florida Forest and Park Association, was the principal speaker.

Resolutions were presented and approved and a committee appointed to make plans and arrangements for another meeting of the same nature next year. There was unanimous opinion that the meeting had been very much worth while and productive, and all insisted that it should be made an annual affair. That the meeting was a success is due in no small measure to the excellent facilities provided at Camp O'Leno and the cooperation of State Forester Baker, Educational Director Jacobs, and Fire Chief Blocker of the Florida Forest and Park Service.

Those in attendance were:

Alabama - J. M. Stauffer, G. G. Cleveland, C. F. Attaway.
Arkansas - George Lary, J. C. Ross.
Florida - H. L. Baker, N. C. Blocker, W. F. Jacobs
Louisiana - J. L. Risch.
Mississippi - A. K. Dexter.
North Carolina - W. C. McCormick, James Lattay.
Oklahoma - W. H. Mitchell.
South Carolina - J. C. Blakeney.
Texas - W. E. White.

Region 8 - C. F. Evans, M. W. May, E. F. Mynatt,
Clint Davis, J. W. K. Holliday, W. C.
Branch, H. M. Sears.
Southern Forest Experiment Station - C. A. Beckford.
Washington Office - A. B. Hastings.

-- H. M. Sears,
Regional Office.

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ANOTHER CONVERT TO SELECTIVE CUTTING.

Conservation Engineer W. J. Bridges, Jr., of the Southern Kraft Corporation at Georgetown, South Carolina, made a very significant statement during a recent pulpwood cutting inspection. He stated that Pulpwood Contractor Wall of Camden, South Carolina, has under contract enough timber tracts owned by private individuals and to be cut on a selective cutting basis to load a barge of 200 units every week for the next year. A unit in this case is a stack of unpeeled wood 4 feet high and 8 feet long and made up with sticks 5 feet 3 inches in length.

--C. W. Strauss
Regional Office.

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PREVENTIVE FIRE SUPPRESSION.

Many of us have read and enjoyed John P. Shea's confidential report "Getting at the Roots of Man-Caused Forest Fires". But it is questionable if we have grasped the full meaning of the report and the possibilities that it opens up.

One of these possibilities is preventive fire suppression; as we now have preventive medicine. Many people pay their doctors, not when they are sick, but to keep them from getting sick. When the patient gets sick the doctor foots the bill, not the patient. In general this is the idea in back of all hospitalization plans. This plan is working so well in medicine that practically all large concerns and organizations throughout the United States are sponsoring the program. The question now comes to our minds why not preventive fire suppression? Now wait a minute! Don't start saying "it can't be done - lets give it a try first anyway. Why not select some red hot plug from our fire watermelon, Region 8, some area where fire suppression costs "Uncle Sam" say

\$1,200.00 a year. Then let us select twenty-two local residents, preferably farmers and key individuals in the community and ask them if they would like to work for the Forest Service. Let us take this \$1,200.00 we have been spending each year and make this proposition to these men: two men as foremen will be paid \$100.00 a year, twenty men will be paid \$50.00 a year. These men will be responsible for the fire suppression and fire law enforcement in the area designated. Now if these men cannot suppress fires in this area and it is necessary to employ additional men the money for these additional men will come from the original \$1,200.00 and the men employed at \$50.00 may receive only \$25.00, or possibly not even this sum. However, if additional men are hired they should come from outside the protected area. The idea then would be not to pay when you have a fire, but to pay not to have a fire. The paid men would be the doctors and if they wanted to collect any money it would pay them not to have any fires, to quickly suppress any fires that might occur and to apprehend any potential or actual fire setters.

There are probably many kinks in this plan that will have to be ironed out. Possibly the plan has already been tried out and proven a failure. However, if it hasn't why shouldn't Region 8 be a pioneer again?

-- W. W. Huber,
Pisgah.

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TWO GUARDS ARE BETTER THAN ONE.

Fire Law Enforcement cases have been lost during the past year where the Forest Service was able to produce only one eyewitness to the act. One United States Attorney suggests that, where the Service employs guards primarily to secure evidence during an incendiary outbreak, such men be worked in pairs. This action will make possible better testimony in case a trespasser is actually seen setting fire to the woods as well as in the presentation of collaborated evidence.

-- Kisatchie.

"TIMBER-R-R!"

The accompanying tabulation indicates that the Region met its self-imposed timber sale quota in a gratifying fashion. Eight of the forests exceeded their quota, and two, the Kisatchie and Nantahala, missed it by such a small margin that they, too, are entitled to commendation. I would like everyone to know how hard the Nantahala worked to meet its obligations since it cut over 15 million feet, largely chestnut salvage. All of the forests that failed to cut their quota and many of those which did, are still below the planned sustained yield capacity for their units. Twenty-two of the Ranger Districts in the Region are furnishing the bulk of the cut, a dozen more contribute respectable amounts while the remainder are by no means realizing anything like their possibilities. True enough, the inactive units have little or no high-class material for sale but, on the other hand, some of the busiest ones are obtaining the bulk of their cut from nothing more or less than forest junk.

The Regional timber receipts are in excess of the P&M allotment for the Region. There are quite a number of districts which are cutting sufficient timber to defray the entire cost of their operation, exclusive of CCC and Acquisition but inclusive of Maintenance, Fire Control, Supervisor and Regional Office overhead. As yet there is no single Supervisor's office which is entirely in the black, but one is tempted to forecast the day when Region 8 will cease to be an expense to the taxpayer. Perhaps we would not be so far from it now on many forests were it not for the public services of watershed protection, free use, recreation, game and grazing.

The cut and commercial sales amount to 148,318,000 bd. ft. This cut furnished 600,000 man-days or full time employment for 3,000 men. Naval stores and non-convertible products furnished the equivalent of year-long employment for 200 more. While the Region's timber resource has become a real factor in Southern employment, we still must realize that we are employing only one woods worker full time for each 3,000 acres of land. The busy districts will probably continue to cut close to their sustained yield, and if the others cut up to this mark we will increase employment 30 or 40 percent even though we do not increase revenue to that extent.

I wonder how many men have fully analyzed the meaning of timber sales. Excepting investment forestry, no forestry is practicable without it. No other lands use competes with sales as a matter of receipts. No other wild lands use is a major competitor as a matter of local employment; and if a man is public-relations minded he will soon come to the conclusion that there

is no better way to get public support than to employ the labor of his district gainfully and without relief measures, and to support the schools and roads without directly dipping into the Federal Treasury for the purpose. Yet, in doing these things we must not lose sight of sound regulation, sustained yield and improved silvicultural practices - all performed at reasonable and acceptable cost.

TIMBER CUT - FISCAL YEAR 1940

| <u>Forest</u> | <u>Quota</u> | <u>Total Value Timber Sales</u> | <u>Total Value Including Land Exchange</u> | <u>Percent of Quota</u> |
|---------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Texas | \$60,000 | \$94,921 | \$94,921 | 158 |
| S. Carolina | 70,000 | 86,849 | 92,071 | 132 |
| Cherokee | 40,000 | 45,333 | 45,333 | 113 |
| Puerto Rico | 10,000 | 11,245 | 11,245 | 112 |
| Chattahoochee | 40,000 | 44,535 | 44,535 | 110 |
| Ouachita | 200,000 | 205,570 | 208,764 | 106 |
| Florida | 130,000 | 136,791 | 137,685 | 105 |
| Ozark | 130,000 | 132,526 | 135,252 | 104 |
| Kisatchie | 35,000 | 31,636 | 31,636 | 90 |
| Nantahala | 35,000 | 30,932 | 30,932 | 88 |
| Mississippi | 90,000 | 28,902 | 63,902 | 71 |
| Alabama | 40,000 | 25,823 | 25,823 | 65 |
| Pisgah | 30,000 | 16,734 | 16,734 | 58 |
| Region 8 | \$910,000 | \$891,797 | \$938,833 | 103 |

-- A. C. Shaw
Regional Office

(Ed. Note: Since the preparation of Mr. Shaw's article, the Washington Office's STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS has been received. This lists timber sales for the fiscal year 1940 for all Regions as indicated below. Region 8 - the "baby" Region - stands second on this list. We think we are "timber sale-ing along").

| <u>Region</u> | <u>Timber Sales Receipts</u> |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| Region 1 | \$524,843.48 |
| Region 2 | 230,508.27 |
| Region 3 | 208,593.27 |
| Region 4 | 110,274.92 |
| Region 5 | 278,829.28 |
| Region 6 | 1,211,870.48 |
| Region 7 | 122,855.72 |
| Region 8 | 852,905.63 |
| Region 9 | 201,871.32 |
| Region 10 | 48,899.27 |

NO JUNK ALLOWED

In response to a recent general letter forwarded to suspected individuals, as well as State, County and City officials, relative to dumping everything from cans to old "T" models on national forest lands, this office is in receipt of the following letter from the Secretary-Manager of the Crockett Chamber of Commerce.

"Dear Gilbert:

"At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors, I was instructed to address a letter to you concerning your recent articles in the newspapers in regard to dumping of trash upon the highways, roads and byways. The Directors of the Crockett Chamber of Commerce have instructed me to express to you their sincere appreciation of this manifestation of your very constructive interest in the improvement of the looks of not only the National Forest, but also the educational program you have conducted through the news columns in an attempt to secure the cooperation of the public at large in refraining from dumping cans and other objectionable debris in places of public gatherings and travel.

"Thanking you again for your interest in this matter and hoping that you will continue these efforts,

Yours very truly,"

In most cases a favorable verbal response to the general letter was received. Looks like the landscape of the Davy Crockett will be protected somewhat longer.

-- Gilbert H. Stradt,
Davy Crockett - Texas.

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LANDS ADDED TO NATIONAL FORESTS.

All lands within the exterior boundaries of the Chattahoochee, Talladega, Ouachita, Apalachicola, Chequamegon, and Nicolet National Forests which have been acquired or are in process of acquisition by the United States under authority of Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, and the vacant, unappropriated, and unreserved public lands within the Talladega National Forest are included in and reserved as parts of the respective National Forests within which they are situated by Proclamation of the President dated July 12 (No. 2415). These transfers involve a total of 24,333 acres.

FIRE PREVENTION ON THE TOCCOA DISTRICT
OF THE CHATTAHOOCHEE NATIONAL FOREST

The prevention of forest fires on government lands in Murray, Gilmer, and Fannin Counties is an important activity on the Toccoa District of the Chattahoochee National Forest. The cooperation of all people who use the woodlands is essential if the Forest Service is to succeed in this phase of its work.

If we consult the record we find a startling fact, namely; that ninety-nine percent of all forest fires occurring in the State of Georgia result from the activities of man. Think for a moment what that statement means - out of every one hundred fires, all but one can be prevented.

Let us analyze the cause of these ninety and nine. First comes incendiary fires. For the State at large, the record indicates that more than fifty percent of our forest fires are caused by citizens who intentionally and maliciously set fire to our woodlands. Many people see no harm in "burning off the woods" and others are indifferent to the serious evils that result from such practices. Next in number comes the fires caused by careless hunters, fishermen and campers. Included here are fires caused by the careless smoker, who tosses away a burning match. Thirty percent of all woods fires are due to carelessness. Negligence on the part of the farmers burning brush and clearing new ground, sawmill operators, and railroads make up the balance of the ninety and nine fires caused by man, which can be prevented. The final one percent which are not preventable are caused by lightning.

Let us consider now the damages that result from forest fires. About sixty-two percent of the area of Georgia is in forests, this means about 23,000,000 acres. For the past five years the average area burned each year has been roughly 5,500,000 acres. The actual damage to timber alone is estimated to be \$6,000,000 annually. Think for a moment of the losses that cannot be easily measured in dollars and cents; the loss of soil fertility, the destruction of game animals and their food, and the washing away of the soil with the silting of reservoirs and lakes, and the floods that result from the rapid runoff of rain from denuded slopes. All these losses must be considered when we think of the damages caused by forest fires.

The Chattahoochee National Forest gives fire protection to 760,000 acres of land in the mountains of North Georgia. On this large area, constant vigil is kept in order that forest fires

may be discovered while they are still small. Trained suppression crews are organized for quick dispatch to the scene when a fire is discovered and every effort is put forth to hold the area burned to a minimum. On the Toccoa District of the Forest there are six lookout towers. Each tower is connected by telephone with work crews scattered throughout the District. When a fire is reported, these crews must stop the valuable work they are engaged in and respond to the fire call. Although the area burned within the forest boundaries is not as great proportionately as for the State at large, the causes of our fires bear a similar ratio. In the past year, one hundred and two fires occurred within or adjacent to the boundaries of the Chattahoochee National Forest, all but one of these fires caused by man.

Without the earnest cooperation of all people, the job of keeping our forests green becomes an insuperable task. If we are to win in our battle against fire, the enemy of our forests, we must have the whole hearted support of all citizens in our campaign of forest fire prevention.

-- J. J. Ennis
Chattahoochee

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A FISH STORY

Let's light the old pipe and stir up the fire while we tell some fish yarns

On August 6, 1938 Ratcliff Lake, located in the heart of the Davy Crockett National Forest was opened for fishing on Saturdays and Sundays of each week to the general public. Mr. and Mrs. Fisherman, some from many miles away, arrived separately and in groups on that famous opening date. In fact, according to the number of permits issued some 359 fishermen tried their luck on that eventful day. Furthermore, the report shows that in all 210 legal-size fish were removed from the lake, and some 326 under-sized fish were returned to the waters for a bit more growth.

Well, the story goes on and on, insofar as number of fishermen and their catches are concerned. However the members of the finny tribe became a bit more wary and at the present time, even though the fishermen have somewhat more experience in the art of angling, the catch has decreased considerably,

In the two years of fishing; credit must be given where credit is due. The prize catches include a 22-inch, 5-3/4 pound black bass, and a 15-inch, 1-3/4 pound white perch or crappie as it is known here in Texas. It may be that these catches have grown slightly in length by this time, but officially they remain at the stated sizes and weights.

-- Gilbert H. Stradt,
Texas.

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TEN-YEAR DAMAGE STUDIES

In 1930 the Ouachita Forest had a total of 431 so-called "summer fires" occurring between June 1 and September 30. That's plenty of smoke in any man's language. Drought conditions resulted in fires of extreme severity, and many of the burns had every appearance of the devastation common to western crown fires.

Sample plots were established in a typical July fire for the purpose of determining the mortality of shortleaf pine and the rate of its recovery. Here is the story after ten years of study:

One year after the fire only 13% of the trees were living. Some trees six inches in diameter were killed but, of course, the heaviest mortality was among the smaller trees. All trees less than two inches in diameter were killed.

The plots on the better sites are now fully stocked, but those on the poorer sites still lack sufficient trees for a good stand.

An interesting feature of the study is the amount of sprout growth subsequent to the fire. Approximately 50% of the present stand is of sprout origin; these are now two inches or more in diameter. A widespread root system of the original trees enabled the sprouts to make a quick recovery. It appears that they will continue to grow and develop the same as trees starting from seed.

-- F. W. Cossitt,
Regional Office

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CARNEGIE'S DESERT LABORATORY

TRANSFERRED TO FOREST SERVICE

The Carnegie Institution has donated to the Forest Service its internationally known Desert Laboratory, located 3 miles from the business center of Tucson, Arizona. The transfer includes 220 acres of land owned by the Institution, with approximately 24 acres additional in smaller parcels to be conveyed later; 640 acres of leased State lands; a one-story laboratory building of native stone, 20 by 122 feet, with two wings, 16 by 36 feet; a second building, 28 by 46 feet; several smaller buildings to be transferred at a later date, and the necessary appurtenant structures. The Institution's investment records show the value of this property to exceed \$80,000. Included also in the donation is a great variety of scientific apparatus, office equipment, shop tools, valued at probably \$15,000, and in addition what is said to be the best biological library in the Southwest. The Laboratory has been used since 1902 for experimentation on methods by which plants performed their functions under the extraordinary conditions existing in the desert. The buildings will be renovated and the site further developed for use within the next year as the headquarters for the Southwestern Forest and Range Experiment Station.

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FLORIDA'S FAME

The Ocala National Forest is famous as the locale of numerous motion pictures such as "Tarzan Finds a Son", many Grantland Rice underwater pictures, etc., and more recently particularly as the locale for the filming of "THE YEARLING". As testimony of this popularity a copy of a card just received in the District Ranger's office is offered:

"Will you please send me a map of the Ocala National Forest. Would it be asking too much of you to mark on it the places mentioned in "The Yearling", such as Baxter's Island, The Forresters, Volusia, Silver Glenn, The bear hunt route, Jody's route when he ran off at the last, etc. Thank you very much."

Come on Bergoffen beat this! WANTED one literature teacher!

-- J. W. Cooper
Florida

LAKE CONASAUGA RECREATION AREA

On July 9, Lake Conasauga Recreation Area on the Toccoa District of the Chattahoochee was officially opened to public use. Congressman Malcolm C. Tarver and Judge John C. Mitchell, Associate Regional Forester H. O. Stabler, and Forest Supervisor W. H. Fischer participated in the program. Approximately 1200 people attended the dedication ceremonies.

Facilities for bathing, picnicking and camping are available at Lake Conasauga. All of the improvements at the area were constructed by enrollees from CCC Camp F-7 on Holly Creek near Chatsworth, Georgia. These improvements include an earthen dam 30 feet high, which impounds the waters from four mountain streams to form the lake, three rustic shelters, a bathhouse, forty picnic tables with a fireplace at each table, a parking area to accommodate 60 automobiles, a tent and trailer camp, and numerous small foot bridges and trails.

With the completion of Lake Conasauga, the Chattahoochee lays claims to the highest body of water in the State of Georgia. This 20 acre lake, 3100 feet above sea level, exceeds by more than 400 feet the elevation of a smaller lake now under construction at Fort Mountain State Park.

Located in one of the most scenic parts of the north Georgia mountains, Lake Conasauga Recreation Area is but a few hours drive from the cities of Atlanta, Dalton, Rome and Chattanooga. This area, easily accessible to a large urban population, now takes its place among others in the Region dedicated to the development of an increasingly important resource - - Forest Recreation.

-- J. J. Ennis,
Chattahoochee

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A PROMPT REPLY IS PLEASANT SURPRISE IN THIS CASE.

Regional Forester Kircher has from time to time stressed the value of prompt business-like handling of correspondence with the public. A recent letter received from the Editor of Motor Topics, a national motor travel magazine, gives emphasis to this policy.

The letter referred to an article submitted at the request of the Editor, and said in part:

"We were pleasantly surprised to receive your very prompt, complete and interesting article on the Pisgah National Forest in North Carolina. You have taken care of our needs most completely and efficiently. Be assured your splendid co-operation is greatly appreciated."

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BRAVO, MR. ROOT!

Roy Hadley, Chief, Division of Fire Control, Washington Office, was so impressed by Mr. Root's article, "The Land Can Sure Take It", which appeared in the June Dixie Ranger, that he sent the following letter to all Regions:

"This fable form with personification of the land (or it could be trees, streams, fish, etc.) impresses me as a vehicle ~~we~~ might well use more freely for fire prevention.

"Perhaps each Region should consider getting out a similar story completely adapted to local Regional problems and situations. My guess is that it would be accepted and published by every newspaper of the Region. It does not seem to me that it would take long for a man who knows fire to rough out an article following the general scheme that Mr. Root has so well illustrated. This rough draft with the essential ideas in it could be turned over to I & E to edit and distribute.

"The idea is capable of almost unlimited variation and continuation.

"If anyone urges us to do so, we will try to put together a generalized fable of this sort suitable for national use. My feeling is though, that much of the value would be lost by the generalization necessary for nation-wide use."

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A REMINDER

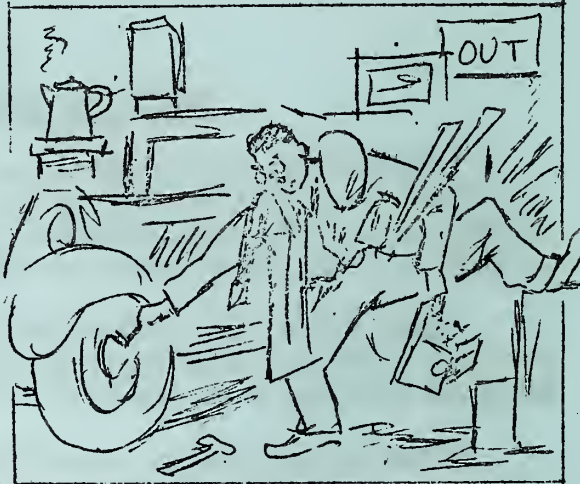
Recent amendments to the Administration Manual include the following: "Either the original or carbon of every statement, memorandum, map, or document of any kind whatever shall be initialed or signed for authorship and dated. Absolutely no exceptions must be made to this rule."

-- Washington Office,
Informational Digest.

THE FAMILY ALBUM

REGIONAL "RANGER"

A unique and unsung mainstay of the Regional Office force is Property Custodian Wm. H. Malpasse. He is an all around fellow; - a marvel of ambidexterity. He isn't particular which hand he uses for what work he does or, for that matter, what work he does. It's been said that Mal will attempt to do anybody's work, including Mr. Kircher's.



Mal's chores and his territory keep him on the run. His "district" is the Glenn Building, the catacombs beneath the Glenn Building and the garage on Ivy Street about a mile away. He has on his neck all the Regional property that he couldn't manage to sign over to you or to me. Sooner or later you run into him - it's unavoidable - and it is well to learn early that argument with him is useless. If you find him in an expansive mood or strike a responsive chord, your request is considered "legal", but use the wrong approach, and Mal can think of 9,537 different regulations which prohibit it.

You have to see him when it's motorized transportation you want (He's also Admiral of the "fleet"). He assigns the "good and bad" official cars, to borrow from a well known slogan. Keep a civil tongue and you'll get a nice new Chevy; be short or surly to him --- and you'll get a Chevy. It isn't as hard as I once supposed to get the Regional Forester's Buick. When asked for it, Mr. Kircher says, cordially, "It's allright with me if you can get Malpasse to let you have it". Ah! there's the rub!

Next time you come in to the "Region", drop down to the supply room to see Mal. Make it some noon-time when you can observe him talking on the 'phone, reading a letter, writing a note, sipping coffee, munching a sandwich and puffing his pipe while maintaining a barrage of asides to several kibitzers, all at the same time..

For a real thrill, have him drive you across down-town Atlanta to the Ivy Street garage through midday traffic. It makes you certain that in his youth Mal must have been a bronco-busting lone ranger and can't get it out of his system. After a

couple of those "bluffing matches" with the signal lights wherein if Mal hadn't known the other fellow would stop - well, intuition isn't confined to the sweeter sex, there's you and Mal alive to prove it.

He's a jack of all trades and he masters them all - he has to -- If you need anything from a button to a drafting table, or if your typewriter or your watch needs repairing, call in our Pal Mal.

-- Chigger Pete.

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CCC PLANTING C. Y. 1939

Trees planted by the CCC (exclusive of Federally owned lands) during the calendar year 1939 totaled 59,807,324, according to data recently compiled by the Division of State Cooperation from annual reports of the individual States. Of this total 49,737,907 were planted on State land, 9,127,100 on Municipal land, and 942,317 on private land. Total area planted was 66,188 acres, of which 57,955 was State land, 6,795 Municipal land, and 1,438 private land.

Approximately 118 million trees are planted annually by the CCC on National Forest land.

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EARLY WORK IN SOUTHERN FORESTRY.

W. R. Mattoon of the Washington Office, Division of State Forestry is one of the pioneers in Southern forestry. Few have made greater contribution to the cause, and his voice should be heeded as one of authority. The following recent comments by Mr. Mattoon are being reproduced here for their historic interest to the Region. They were contained in a letter to Assistant State Forester Schaeffer of South Carolina in reply to his invitation to Mr. Mattoon to take part in the program of the Conservation School held at Table Rock, July 15-20,

"I would like very much to be with you at the Annual School for the Conservation of Natural Resources for that has been very close to my life interests for some years. My first assignment in the East by the Forest Service was in March 1912

when I surveyed and laid out the series of reforestation experimental plots at the State Clemson Experiment Sub-station near Summerville. Here the first research in reforestation in the South by natural methods and by planting was carried on actively for the next eight to ten years and less actively since that time. Much that we are now doing in growing slash pine as a timber crop is based upon the findings of those cooperative experiments. I look upon the Station almost as my second home for I made so many visits there and was so greatly interested in observing the developments and findings.

"This was the first forestry research station in the South and it was followed in December of 1913 with a plan (which I made on the ground) and in January 1915 by the laying out by Professor Samuel T. Dana of the Forest Service in experimental growth on the lands of the Urania Lumber Company at Urania, Louisiana with the enthusiastic cooperation of the late Henry E. Hardtner. These have since been developed in a big way."

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ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HUMAN RELATIONS

CONSIDERS FIRE PROBLEMS

The Advisory Council on Human Relations of the American Association for the Advancement of Science closed its session on Saturday, June 8. The Council expects to give the Service in writing definite suggestions and advice arising from the two-day meeting, at which special attention was given to problems of fire prevention. One specific procedure tentatively approved at the session provided for letters from the Service addressed to all members of the Council in which specific situations will be described and specific questions asked. Replies are to be sent through the Secretary of the Council, who will arrange for any necessary coordination or action by the full membership. For example, this procedure if finally approved will be used to present to the full membership of the Council one problem facing a study group which will convene in Region 7 during the late summer. Techniques will be urgently needed to help in isolating so far as may be possible the effect of numerous kinds of fire prevention influence in order that the priority and practical value of each may be determined. The Council may be able to give concrete help.

"LADIES DAY" IN FORESTRY

One of the most encouraging trends in the field of forest conservation today is the way in which all agencies and groups are working together and trying to understand each other's field of endeavor. It is impossible to overemphasize the ingredient of cooperation in putting anything across. And the fact that the public is coming to recognize forest conservation as everybody's business is the thing that in the long run will bring about better forestry practices.

"Ladies Day" is something not to be taken lightly in the game of conservation. Green trees take a prominent place at pink teas and the interest and activity of modern woman is giving hum and zip to the conservation movement.

Last year the South Carolina Garden Clubs and Federation of Women's Clubs in cooperation with the State Commission of Forestry sponsored a School for the Conservation of Natural Resources in which all South Carolina clubwomen were invited to participate. It was so successful that those responsible for the undertaking decided to make it an annual event. The second School was held this year at Table Rock State Park July 15-20. All state and federal conservation agencies cooperated in the undertaking and took part in the program. The various phases of conservation were discussed by experts in each field, one day being devoted to each of the following subjects: Forests, Soil Conservation, Wildlife, Parks, Wild Flowers, Shrubs and Trees.

Lively interest was shown throughout the session. The women took notes and asked questions that surprised the men. Their questions showed that they were good business men and wanted to know about the economic angles of forestry, as well as its aesthetic side. Debate and discussion took place at each lecture which brought out information to help clubwomen "plan their work and work their plan" - all of which will be of benefit to the forestry program in South Carolina.

This school which brought together such a number of agencies and individuals to work for the same objectives should be welcome proof to foresters that the time and effort they have spent in the field of conservation education has been very worthwhile.

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The sympathy of the entire Region is extended to Mr. W. R. Hine of the Division of State and Private Forestry, whose mother, Mrs. Anna Hine of Gloversville, New York, died on July 4.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Thomas U. Jones has been probationally appointed as Handyman and is assigned to duty in the Repair Shop on the Ouachita.

Parker B. Smith recently resigned his position as Scientific Aid in the Chattahoochee Supervisor's Office to accept a position with the State of Georgia Wildlife Division.

J. Wayne Higdon, Engineering Aid in the Nantahala Supervisor's Office has been transferred to the Southern Forest Experiment Station and is stationed at Oxford, Mississippi.

Resignation has been accepted from Oscar W. Sparks, Operator, Equipment, on the Leesville Ranger District of the Kisatchie, to accept other employment.

Minor Asst. to Technician Lenard G. Edwards has been transferred from the Bent Creek Experimental Forest on the Pisgah to the Nantahala, where he is engaged in the collection and compilation of data for forest influence studies on the Coweeta Experimental Forest.

Tractor Mechanic George W. Wright recently resigned his position on the Oden Ranger District of the Ouachita in order to accept other employment.

William H. Cone, Engineering Draftsman, assigned to acquisition activities in the Chattahoochee Supervisor's office, has been transferred to the Southern Station at New Orleans.

John W. Sherrill, Tractor Operator, assigned to duties in the Pisgah Repair Shop, recently resigned his position in order to enter private employment.

Minor Asst. to Technician James R. Scott, Jr., has been transferred from the Hiwassee Ranger District on the Cherokee to the Coweeta Experimental Forest on the Nantahala, where he will be assigned to the compilation of weather and streamflow records under the direction of the Appalachian Station.

Jr. Forester Lester L. Harris has been transferred from the Talladega to the Black Warrior Ranger District on the Alabama, where he will be engaged primarily in timber stand improvement activities.

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THE LOOKOUT

Regional Forester Kircher attended a meeting of various Federal, State and County Officials held at the Kimball House on June 28 for the purpose of discussing the Food Stamp Program. Mr. Kircher gave a brief talk outlining the work of the Forest Service.

Associate Forester Stabler and Clint Davis attended the dedicatory exercises at Lake Conasauga Recreation Area on the Chattahoochee National Forest on June 9. Mr. Stabler made the dedicatory address.

Announcement is made of the marriage of Miss Louise Coleman to Eldred Pate of the Regional Office Mail Room on July 3. To Mr. and Mrs. Pate go the congratulations and good wishes of the entire Regional Office.

Editor J. Austell Small of the "Southern Sportsman", Austin, Texas handed Illustrator Rossoll the following compliment: "That is some jam-up good work in illustrating in "How to Dress Big Game"!"

Recent office visitors were:

Washington Office: Mr. C. J. Buck
Mr. C. R. Buell

Other visitors were: Mr. R. B. Ellis, Department of Agriculture
Mr. H. Aspinwald, Federal Surplus Commodities Corp.
Mr. J. T. Marshall, Public Roads Administration
Mr. L. J. Leffelman, Soil Conservation Service
Mr. Frank E. Haskell, Soil Conservation Service
Mr. Lovejoy Harwell, President of the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club
Mr. Reusch of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer
Mr. H. C. Carruth, Extension Forester, Athens, Ga.
Mr. L. W. Eberhardt, Asst. Extension Forester, Athens, Ga.
Prof. A. E. Moss and Mr. N. W. Hosley, School of Forestry, Connecticut Agricultural College.

The many friends of Bill Wheelis, who is summering at Mountain City, Tennessee, enjoyed his recent visit to the Regional Office.

Ranger R. E. Rea, Supervisor Riebold and Mrs. deJarnette represented the Forest Service at the Conservation School sponsored by the South Carolina Garden Clubs, the Federation of Women's Clubs and the South Carolina Forestry Commission, held at Table Rock State Park, July 15-20.

Engineer George T. Pettay returned on June 18 from a two month's detail on the Caribbean where he assisted in the construction of the headquarters building for the Tropical Forest Experiment Station.

Notice has been received of the resignation of Harry L. Baker, State Forester of Florida, effective August 31. Mr. Baker is now on leave and Mr. Henry J. Malsberger has been designated as Acting State Forester during the month of July.

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